GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3425
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2003
ONGC EXPLORATION IN KARNATAKA
IQBAL AHMED SARADGI

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited has ruled out any scope for oil exploration in Karnataka;

(b) if so, whether any survey has been conducted in the State by the ONGC so far;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any concrete decision for oil exploration in the State has been finally rejected; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the HousE.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3425 BY SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI TO BE ANSWERED ON 13TH MARCH, 2003 REGARDING ONGC EXPLORATION IN KARNATAKA

(a) to (c) Except for Bhima-Kaladgi basin which falls in North-North-Western part of the State of Karnataka with very poor perceived hydrocarbon potential; the remaining part of the State comprises hard rocks and is not considered to be conducive from the point of view of hydrocarbon generation and accumulation. Thus, no exploration for hydrocarbons has been carried out so far. In the offshore areas of Karnataka, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) has carried out approximately 42,000 Line Kilometer (LK) of Two-Dimensional (2-D) seismic surveys and two wells were drilled, which proved to be devoid of hydrocarbons. In the deep water areas off the coast of Karnataka, ONGC in its Petroleum Exploration License (PEL) block has carried out 4,926 LK of 2-D seismic surveys and drilled one well, which also proved to be devoid of hydrocarbons. In addition, ONGC holds two blocks, namely KK-DWN-2000/2 and KK-DWN-2000/4, in the deepwater area under New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) wherein it carried out about 6,000 LK each of 2-D seismic, gravity and magnetic surveys.

(d) & (e) Under `India Hydrocarbon Vision-2025`, 100% of the sedimentary basins are to be appraised by 2025, which will be implemented through pre-exploratory surveys, offers of blocks under NELP, etc.